PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 6516
Centre name: Kalangadoo Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
  The Director is employed in the position at 0.4 fraction of time.
- Postal address
  Millicent Road, Kalangadoo SA 5290
- Location address
  Millicent Road, Kalangadoo SA 5290
- DECS Region
  Limestone Coast
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
  The Kindergarten is located approximately 430 kilometres from Adelaide and approximately 40 Kilometres from Mount Gambier.
- Telephone number
  08 87393271
- Fax number
  08 87393332
- Preschool e-mail address
  kindy.director@kalangapre.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
  In recent times the Kindergarten enrolments have begun to decline and we are currently averaging 5-7 children per session.
  It is projected that enrolment numbers will be maintained as there are a number of children entering into the kindergarten from the Occasional Care programme.
- Co-located/stand-alone
  The Kindergarten is a stand-alone site that is situated on the boundary of the Kalangadoo Primary School.
- Programs operating at the preschool
  Pre Entry
Children attend 1 session per week for their Pre-Entry session at 3.5 years of age.

- Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
  Children attend 3 sessions per week for 5 terms prior to entering school.
  Kindergarten sessions are held on: Wednesdays from 8.45 to 12 noon. And Thursdays from 8.45 am to 3.15 pm.

- Funded Occasional Care –
  Operates for over 2 year olds on Wednesday mornings from 9am to 12 noon.

- Lunch/Full Day Program
  All Kindergarten children attend for a Lunch time session on Thursdays.
  - Preschool Support
    Preschool support is available when required and in line with Department policies and procedures.

Playgroup:
Aparent run Playgroup operates from the Kindergarten on Monday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30am.
2. **Key Centre Policies**

1) To develop the Oral Literacy skills of all children.
2) To improve the Numeracy development of all children.
3) To develop and enhance the wellbeing, engagement, social and emotional growth of children.
4) Implementation of the Early Years Learning Curriculum Framework

- **Curriculum Framework used:**
  The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia – “BELONGING< BEING & BECOMING” as the basis for the Curriculum.

- **Core Values**
  Kalangadoo Kindergarten works in partnership with families and the community in a learning environment that is play based. We provide opportunities for all children to develop to their full potential.
  Kalangadoo Kindergarten strives to develop in children a love of learning, confidence to have a go and a sense of belonging through the provision of a safe, caring, high quality and stimulating learning environment.
  We also value and support the development of independence, positive sense of self, respect, enjoyment of learning, responsibility, optimism and empowerment.

- **Specific curriculum approaches**
  We use the Early Years Learning Framework in conjunction with observations of children, knowledge of the child provided by families and the community as a basis for developing a balanced and developmentally appropriate learning programme.
  The daily curriculum is planned for and delivered in ways that are responsive to the children on the day, flexible and monitored closely.
• Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

4. Centre Based Staff

• Staff Profile
  1 Director (0.4)
  1 Early Childhood Worker (0.35)
  1 Early Childhood Worker (Occasional Care)
  1 Preschool Support worker – when required.

• Performance Management Program
  Each staff member records and reflects on their own goals for the year in relation to DECS and the Kindergarten’s overall Site Improvement Priorities, personal preferences etc. They then meet with the Director to discuss. Follow up meetings with the Director to monitor progress and report successes etc occur as needed
• Access to special support staff
Specialist support services are available and accessed as required by staff, children and families

• Other

5. Centre Facilities
• Buildings and grounds
The Kalangadoo Kindergarten is fortunate to have a new purpose built centre.
The building has a well-equipped kitchen. Office, withdrawal area and nappy changing facilities.
The building has exceptional air conditioning and heating facilities.
The outdoor environment is also well set out and provides a number of areas of interest to the children including a playground, sand pit and cubby house.

• Capacity (per session)
The centre is currently running under capacity due to low enrolments.

• Centre Ownership
DECS

• Access for children and staff with disabilities
The Kindergarten has excellent accessibility for children and or families with disabilities with ramps and flat paved areas.
6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

- **General characteristics:**
  Our children are generally from English speaking backgrounds. Kalangadoo and surrounding areas has high employment opportunities in the Dairy, farming, Vineyard, and forestry industries. Some families commute to Mount Gambier or Millicent for employment,

- **Parent and community involvement in the preschool**
  The parents of Kalangadoo Kindergarten are highly supportive of the Kindergarten’s Curriculum, fundraising and other activities. The Kindergarten has an active Governing Council and parents are keen to help out where and when possible.

- **Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool**
  Most children generally move on to attend the Kalangadoo Primary School which is next door to the Kindergarten.

- **Other local care and educational facilities,**
  The nearest Child Care Centres to Kalangadoo are located in Penola, Mount Gambier or Millicent.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**
  There is a general store in the Kalangadoo township as well a Deli that stocks some basic grocery items. Other shopping centres are located in Penola, Millicent or Mount Gambier.

- **Other local facilities**
  **Availability of staff housing**
  Government Housing is available in Mount Gambier (approx 40km away)

- **Accessibility**
  The nearest Airport is located 10km from Mount Gambier (approx 30km away), a number of flights to Adelaide and Melbourne leave daily.
  There is also a privately run bus company that leaves from Mount Gambier to Adelaide daily

- **Local Government**
  Wattle range Council.
7. **Further Comments**

- Partnership arrangements with other groups
  The Kindergarten enjoys a close connection to the Kalangadoo Primary School which enables smooth transition of children to the school setting.